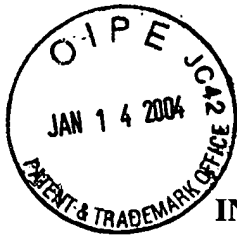


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTORS:	SERIAL NO:	FILING DATE	ART UNIT:	CONFRM NO.
Calias, and Miller	09/784,402	February 15, 2001	1651	2991
TITLE:			EXAMINER:	
Modification of Biopolymers for Improved Drug Delivery			Naff, David M	

Box After Final
Commissioner for Patents
P.O Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

REPLY WITH AMENDMENT
AFTER FINAL

In response to the Office Action mailed from the Patent Office on August 12, 2003 applicants submit the following Reply with Amendment and Remarks. A petition for a three-month extension of time is also submitted herewith to extend the period for responding to February 12, 2004 with authorization for payment of fees associated therewith. Applicants kindly request reconsideration of this application in view of the amendment and remarks set forth below.

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Remarks	Page 5
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Authorization for Payment of Fees (with duplicate copy)	Page 9